

## **July 2003 - NEWS RELEASE**

### **New Relocation Legislation – Increase in the reestablishment limit for small businesses, farms, and non-profit organizations.**

The Washington State Legislature recently changed RCW 8.26.035 to increase the reestablishment limit from the existing \$10,000 to \$50,000. This new legislation went in effect on Sunday, July 27, 2003. The change in law will not only affect our agency but will impact local public agencies as well. WSDOT has made the determination that on our projects any displaced business, farm, or non-profit organization (NPO) who receives a Notice of Eligibility after July 27, 2003 is eligible to receive reimbursement for the increased amount. It will be up to each local public agency to establish procedures in determining which displacees are eligible for reimbursement of the increased amount on their projects.

WSDOT is currently in the process of making the necessary revisions to WAC 468-100-306 to reflect the new legislation. A message will be posted on this website once this process is complete. Revisions to the General Notice and Notice of Eligibility & 90-Day Assurance letters are now complete. Please delete all previous versions from your hard drive and retrieve the new version from Outlook. In the near future a revision will also be made to Chapter 12 of the Right of Way Manual.

The Federal Highway Administration has made the determination that they will participate up to the maximum reestablishment allowed by state law.

Relocation brochures will need to be updated with the addition of the following statement:

***Effective July 27, 2003***

*The reestablishment limit has been increased from \$10,000 to \$50,000. This will apply to any displaced business, farm, or non-profit organization that receives a Notice of Eligibility after the effective date.*

For additional information or questions, please call Dianna Ayers at (360)705-7329 or Susan Clemen at (360)705-7325.